DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY STRIPES

January 31, 2008

The STRIPES Communiqué is one of the many ways you will receive information and progress updates about the STRIPES Project. If you did not receive this communiqué via e-mail and would like to be added to the STRIPES mailing list, send an e-mail to STRIPES@hq.doe.gov with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

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New Technical Enhancement Worth STRIPES' Delay

To date, the STRIPES Project has met key milestones, stayed on schedule and benefited from excellent field participation. Last month, STRIPES completed a second successful User Acceptance Test (UAT) which yielded even better results than the first (UAT). While the STRIPES team has been working diligently to achieve this success to date, other related systems such as STARS and IDW have worked tirelessly alongside STRIPES to implement a strong integration. Several weeks ago, a new technical development was identified which will provide significantly smoother transactions than the currently implemented design.

This improvement does not change the STRIPES experience directly; instead, the new technical design primarily impacts the financial and payment communities. After extensive analysis and a unanimous decision amongst I-MANAGE leadership, the STRIPES team agreed to pursue the improved design. <u>Implementing this new development resulted in a 5-6 week delay for STRIPES deployment.</u>

The benefits to the acquisition workforce include:

- 1. A more stable integration with the STARS financial system;
- 2. Less load on the integration Enterprise Service Bus (ESB), hence better performance;
- 3. More streamlined transaction audit, resulting in less interruptions from audit inquiries;
- 4. Alignment of STRIPES Acquisition and Financial Assistance deployment schedules; and,
- 5. More time for your office to engage in pre-deployment activities.

This decision was not made lightly, but was made in the best interest for the sustainability and longevity of STRIPES and the systems with which it is integrated. Thank you for your ongoing support as this decision will result in an overall smoother, more stable transition into STRIPES.

As you may suspect, a shift in the STRIPES deployment schedule will have a direct impact on the training delivery schedule. A planning meeting was held with your Site Training Coordinators to determine classroom availability for the best course of action. Based on training room and resource availability, the order of deployment, and the timing of training being delivered at your site, a revised training delivery schedule will be determined.

With the revised training delivery and deployment schedules being finalized, the new dates will allow financial assistance training to occur either a week before, or the week after the classroom acquisition training has been conducted. STRIPES is working diligently with Site Training Coordinators, the Site Points of Contacts (SPOCs), field Chief Financial Officers, and Procurement Directors to work out the details for the updated schedule. Initial deployment will occur at Headquarters during March and April, followed by deployment across the field.

STRIPES Financial Assistance Personnel Update

The STRIPES Project team would like to welcome Patricia Reger as the new Deputy Team Lead for Financial Assistance. Ms. Reger, or fondly known as Patti, has been a long-time supporter of STRIPES and we are excited to have her in this new role.

In Next Month's Communiqué

- Updated Training Schedule
- Pre-deployment Activities
- Financial Assistance User Acceptance Test (UAT)



Policy Corner: At the Finish Line!

The DOE Office of Procurement and Assistance Policy (Policy) has completed the corporate clauses and provisions for STRIPES. Corporate clauses are defined as non-DEAR clauses that have wide-spread universal use across DOE Sites. Corporate clauses can be viewed by STRIPES users from any site. These corporate clauses were gathered from across the Department and consolidated by the clause working group. After the initial review, the clauses and provisions were vetted through subject matter experts at Headquarters Procurement and Assistance Policy and General Counsel. In addition, the Procurement Policy Advisory Group (PPAG) is providing comments on the corporate-level clauses to Policy. The corporate clauses and provisions will be loaded and ready in STRIPES prior to pre-deployment activities.

Corporate clauses are not to be confused with local field site or program specific clauses. DOE Contracting Officers and Contract Specialists will be able to access their local clauses and pull them into appropriate sections.

Policy already has begun the next steps for STRIPES, which includes on-going clause maintenance and Library review. The clause working group and Policy have collaborated to draft local clause procedures.

STRIPES Project Information

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